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Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /047 W
----------042285 222110Z /72
R 221957Z JUL 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5909
USDOC WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL QUEBEC
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

UNCLAS TORONTO 1883

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELTN, BENC, SOP, PGOV, CA
SUBJECT: REACTION TO STREETCAR CONTRACT AWARD -- UPDATE

USOD ALSO FOR BIC/OED/OBEC: DOT FOR TP1-42

REF: TORONTO 1873

1. JULY 22 PAPERS EVIDENCED NOT ONLY BREAK IN MEDIA CRITICISM OF ONTARIO GOVERNMENT AWARD OF STREETCAR CONTRACT TO ONTARIO GIRM BUT NDP SUPPORT FOR TORY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ACTION.

2. TABLOID TORONTO SUN EDITORIAL HEADLINED "ETHICS" STATED "BY NOT TAKING THE QUEBEC TENDER, ONTARIO WILL BE HELPING ONTARIANS -- ITS PRIME CONSIDERATION. THE DAVIS GOVERNMENT HARDLY NEEDS TO JUSTIFY ITS ACTIONS." THE EDITORIAL CONTINUED WITH A COMMENT ON THE TRADITIONAL "BUY QUEBEC ONLY" POLICY OF SUCCESSIVE QUEBEC GOVERNMENTS AND ON THE "POLICIES OF APPEASEMENT THAT HAVE BEEN THE FEDS' ANSWER TO QUEBEC BLACKMAIL."
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THE EDITORIAL'SMAIN GUNS WERE RESERVED FOR FEDERAL MINISTER GOYER WHO WAS DESCRIBED AS "ONE OF THE WORST MINISTERS IN TRUDEAU'S CABINET" AND A POLITICIAN "ACCIDENT-PRONE AND ETHICALLY FLEXIBLE...DOING MORE TO DIVIDE AND DAMAGE CANADA THAN ANY NUMBER OF RENE LEVESQUES."

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3. THE GLOBE & MAIL'S REPORT ON BUSINESS COLUMNIST RON
ANDERSON OBSERVED HOW THE NOVEMBER 15 QUEBEC ELECTIONS
HAD CHANGED THE GROUND RULES FOR EVALUATION OF THE TENDER
CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 8 AND HOW, IF THERE WERE A QUESTION
OF "BALKANIZATION," THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BY NOT
RENEGING ON ITS ELECTION PROMISE TO CONTRIBUTE 25 PERCENT
OF THE COST OF URBAN TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT COULD HAVE
ENSURED A NATIONAL SUPPLY CONCEPT IN THE TERMS OF ITS
GRANT.

4.TORONTO STAR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT COLUMNIST JONATHAN
MANTHORPE WAS HIGHLY SUPPORTINVE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
ACTION, NOTING THAT THE "PRESENCE OF JEAN-PIERRE GOYER
IN THE FEDERAL CABINET HAS ALWAYS BEENONE OF THE FINEST
EXAMPLES OF PIERRE TRUDEAU'S BELIEF THAT ABILITY, OR
LACK OF IT, SHOULD NEVER STAND IN THE WAY OF THE NEED
FOR REGIONAL REPRESENTATION AMONG MINISTERS." MANTHORPE
CONTINUED THAT THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT
TO NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND ITS WLLINGNESS TO SPEND
AN EXTRA TWO MILLION DOLLARS "TO FURTHER THAT END
IS A PERFECTLY LEGITIMATE MOVE."
"ULTIMATELY THE KIND OF ATTITUDE THAT GOYER ADVOCATES
IS THE MOST DANGEROUS TO CONFEDERATION. FOR THE
ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO ABANDON THE BEST INTERESTS OF ITS
OWN PEOPLE IS HARDLY LIKELY TO BREED AN ATMOSPHERE
WHERE NATIONAL UNITY CAN BE MAINTAINED.
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"FOR DAVIS AND HIS MINISTERS TO EMBARK ON A POLICY
OF APPEASING THE PARTI QUEBECOIS GOVERNMENT WOULD ONLY
WEAKEN THEIR HAND WHEN THE TIME COMES IN A YEAR OT TWO
TO NEGOTIATE A REVAMPING OF THE CONSTITITION FOR ALL
CANADIANS."

5. PREMIER DAVIS IN A STATEMENT SAID THAT MINISTR
GOYER'S "IMPLISTIC APPROACH TO THE DECISION WE TOOK
TO DEAL WITH A PARTICULAR SITUATION THAT IS OF VITAL
IMPORTANCE TO DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHERN ONTARIO DOES MORE
TO PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF SEPARATISM THAN ANY ACTION
BY MY GOVERNMENT." WHILE OPPOSITION LIBERAL TRANSPORTATION
CRITIC ERIC CUNNINGHAM ECHOED FEDERAL LIBERAL REACTION
IN CALLING THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION "UNDERMINING CANADIAN
UNITY," NDP TRANSPORT CRITIC ED PHILIP SUPPORTED THE
GOVERNMENT'S ACTION AS JUSTIFIED.CANTWELL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STREETCARS, CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770262-1044
Format: TEL
From: TORONTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770727/aaaaawvo.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TORONTO 1873
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1769959
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTION TO STREETCAR CONTRACT AWARD -- UPDATE USOD ALSO FOR BIC/OED/OBEC: DOT FOR TP1-42
TAGS: ELTN, BENC, SOPN, PGOV, CA
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2ad7f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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